

VENEZUELA

Capital: Caracas

GEODATA

Area

912,050 km²

Major language

Spanish (official)

Major religious groups

Roman Catholic, Protestant

Surrounding countries

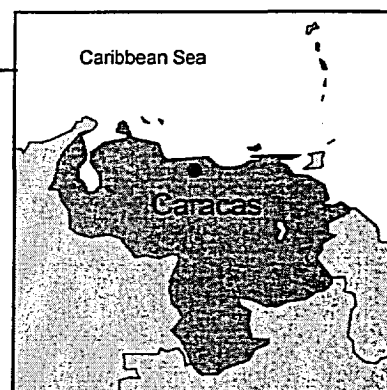
Brazil, Colombia, Guyana

Population

24 million (2000 est.)

Population growth rate

2% (1990–1999 average)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

National legislature

Unicameral: National Assembly; multiparty

Leader

President Hugo Chávez Frías

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Luis Alfonso Dávila

Minister of Finance

José Alejandro Rojas Ramirez

Minister of Production and Commerce

Luisa Romero Bermúdez

UN Human Development Index (2000)

Venezuela ranks 65th among 174 countries

Canadian official development assistance

\$1.8 million (1998–1999)

ECONOMIC DATA

Real GDP

\$106 billion US (2000 est.)

GDP growth rate

3.1% (2000 est.)

GDP per capita

\$3,028 US (1999)

Inflation rate

16.1% (2000 est.)

Unemployment rate

14.6% (2000 est.)

Main exports

Petroleum, bauxite and aluminum, steel, chemicals, agricultural products, basic manufactured products

Main imports

Raw materials, machinery and equipment, transport equipment, construction materials

Main exports to Canada

\$1.4 billion (2000), including mineral fuel and oil; iron and steel products; inorganic chemicals; rare metals; ores, slag and ash; vehicles; precious stones and metals; machinery; organic chemicals

Main imports from Canada

\$634.7 million (2000), including cereals; vehicles; machinery; paper and paperboard; pharmaceutical products; vegetables; electrical machinery; wood pulp; furniture and bedding; preserved food

Canadian Representative

Allan Stewart, Ambassador, The Canadian Embassy in Venezuela

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